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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Ad Hoc Working Group on Trade,
Environment and Development
Second session
Geneva, 6 June 1995
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda and annotations to the provisional agenda

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. Effects of environmental policies, standards and regulations on market access and competitiveness, with special reference to developing countries, including the least developed among them, and in the light of UNCTAD empirical studies

3. Trade, environment and development aspects of establishing and operating eco-labelling programmes

4. Provisional agenda for the third session of the Ad Hoc Working Group

5. Other business

6. Adoption of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group to the Trade and Development Board.

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda as approved by the Ad Hoc Working Group at its first session is reproduced in section I above.

The Working Group will have available four working days from 6 to 9 June 1995. At the first meeting, on 6 June 1995, an opening statement will be made by the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD or his representative. The rest of the session will be primarily devoted to items 2 and 3 of the agenda. It is suggested that, apart from the opening and closing plenary meetings, the Working Group should consider items 2 and 3 in an informal setting.

Item 2: The effects of environmental policies, standards and regulations on market access and competitiveness, with special reference to developing countries, including the least developed among them, and in the light of UNCTAD empirical studies

The report by the UNCTAD secretariat, entitled "Environmental policies, trade and competitiveness: conceptual and empirical issues" (TD/B/WG.6/6) is divided into three parts. Part A examines conceptual issues relating to the linkages between environmental policies and competitiveness. Part B draws on empirical studies undertaken under UNCTAD's technical cooperation programme on trade, environment and development, in particular country-specific studies carried out by research institutes in developing countries and countries in transition under the joint UNCTAD/UNDP project on "Reconciliation of environmental and trade policies" and the joint UNCTAD/UNEP project on "Capacity-building on trade and environment". The conclusions and recommendations are set forth in Part C. In addition, a synthesis report of the empirical studies is being issued separately (TD/B/WG.6/Misc.4, English only).

Group members are requested to hand in national presentations they have brought with them at the latest by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, 6 June so that they can be included in the informal documents which will be issued by the secretariat on the following day.

Item 3: Trade, environment and development aspects of establishing and operating eco-labelling programmes

Under this agenda item, the Working Group will follow up to its deliberations on eco-labelling, initiated at its first session. The secretariat's report on the trade, environment and development aspects of establishing and operating eco-labelling programmes (TD/B/WG.6/5) serves as a background for the deliberations, jointly with the report in TD/B/WG.6/2, which was prepared to aid the deliberations of the Working Group at its first session. Attention is also called to the Chairman's summary of the deliberations on eco-labelling at the first session, (see TD/B/41(2)/5-TD/B/WG.6/3, annex II). At the opening of the session, supplementary information will be made available in a miscellaneous report (TD/B/WG.6/Misc.3, English only). Members of the Group are encouraged to report on national experiences, taking into account the analysis and recommendations contained in the secretariat's report.

A representative of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) will make a presentation of ISO's work on guiding principles on environmental labelling.

Item 4: Provisional agenda for the third session of the Ad Hoc Working Group

A draft provisional agenda for the third session of the Working Group will be submitted in the light of the discussions at this session.

Item 5: Other business

Item 6: Adoption of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group to the Trade and Development Board

The report of the Working Group will be considered by the Trade and Development Board.

III. BUREAU OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ELECTED AT ITS FIRST SESSION

Chairman:	Mr. A. Hynninen	(Finland)
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. S.Djajadiningrat	(Indonesia)
	Mrs. R. Mrabet	(Tunisia)
	Mr. G. Thielen Graterol	(Venezuela)
	Mr. B. Diekmann	(Germany)
	Mr. Y. Afanassiev	(Russian Federation)
Rapporteur:	Mr. B. Alipour	(Islamic Republic of Iran)